

**TOMBSTONE EPITAPH**

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**MAY STARTLE THE WORLD**

Is the world on the threshold of a great discovery that will revolutionize our social life as completely as did the invention of the steam engine after the Napoleonic wars? This question is being seriously discussed in Europe and one of England's most notable physicists is credited by the London Spectator with saying that it is not impossible such a discovery may be made almost at once. The majority of people, scrambling for daily bread, don't have time to devote to matters of this kind. They have to leave scientific subjects to men who have some private means or who have "angels" to keep them in food and clothing while they conduct their experiments. Therefore, when they read of promised marvels they shrug their shoulders, and if they are Americans they declare they are from Missouri.

Yet the scientists are actually talking about something which will make the world practically independent of coal and petroleum. They refer to radioactivity and invite our attention to the fact that it has "raised the veil from the internal mysteries of the atom and has indicated as no remote possibility, the tapping of a supply of energy as much beyond that of fuel as the latter is beyond "brute energy." While the scientists are hunting for an atomic detonator which will enable us to use water for fuel less, learned men bid the people to expect vast changes within a comparatively short time. The development of aircraft will bridge the Pacific as well as the Atlantic, electrically driven trains will cross the continent at two miles a minute, glass or rubber motor roads will give us magnificent highways and submarine liners will plow the seas independent of the weather.

Radioactivity—spontaneous emission of rays consisting (at least in part) of material particles traveling at a high velocity—would be far cheaper than electric power for pumping plants and its perfection for commercial purposes would be tremendous boon for this valley.

**FUTURE FOR MINING BRIGHT**

There is a brilliant future ahead, for hundreds of mining districts that are only making time at present. Every drop in the price of mining supplies and the cost of labor adds to the earnings of producing mines and makes possible the opening of old producers forced to close down because increased costs made earnings impossible.

Throughout the west there are loyal mining men who have passed up opportunities in other lines of endeavor in order to protect their stockholders and have their properties in shape to take advantage of the great period of mining prosperity that is so rapidly approaching. The nation as a whole can be no more prosperous than its mines. There has been a slackening of production in the factories, but the demand for American manufactured products is world-wide and the mines will be called upon to provide their portion of raw products. Copper, lead, zinc, tungsten, manganese and molybdenum have a thousand uses in the world's manufacturing plants, while increased demands for gold and silver are making the supply of these metals look insignificant.

Praise is due the mine operator who has stuck with his mine during the depressed period in the industry. He might have done like hundreds of others who quit the mining districts for the more attractive rewards of the oil fields. Now with greater prosperity at hand in the mining districts, the mine operator who stuck to his property is in line to reap his reward.—Denver Mining Record.

**CLEAN BILLS**

The U. S. Treasury, acting in connection with the federal reserve banks, will endeavor to facilitate the distribution of clean paper currency throughout the country from now on.

Hitherto the replacement of soiled and badly worn currency has been carried on directly between the remitting banks and the treasury or sub-treasury. It was a cumbersome and never thoroughly satisfactory method. Next June the sub-treasuries will be closed, and it is in anticipation of this closing that the federal banks are to take up the distribution of clean currency. The old money will be remitted to the treasury as formerly, but upon its receipt a credit for the remitting bank will be wired to the nearest reserve bank, and the money will be forthcoming at once. Owing to the greater number of these banks, it is believed that there will be a better division of money fit for circulation, and also the shortage of small denomination notes which obtains in some localities will be relieved.

The public generally will rejoice that this matter is well under way. Soiled and worn paper money is not only unsightly. It is more than likely to be unsanitary, and a steady flow of cash, clean bills will add to the public comfort and health.

The continued depression of the copper market is causing the copper producers to cut their forces to the very lowest notch that will permit of continued operation. This condition is to be regretted, but we have the assurance that there will be better times for the copper market. The present price as quoted for the red metal will not allow the copper producers to break even on its cost.

**THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION**

President Wilson has issued his Thanksgiving proclamation, saying that "in plenty, security and peace, our virtuous and self-reliant people face the future," and setting aside Thursday, Nov. 25 for the usual observance. The text follows:

"The season approaches when it behooves us to turn from the distractions and pre-occupations of our daily life that we may contemplate the mercies which have been vouchsafed to us and render heart-felt and unfeigned thanks unto God for his manifold goodness.

"This is an old observance of the American people, deeply imbedded in our thoughts and habit. The burdens and the stresses of life have their own insistence.

"We have abundant cause for thanksgiving. The lessons of the war are rapidly healing. The great army of free men, which America sent to the defense of liberty, returning to the grateful embrace of the nation, has resumed the useful pursuits of peace, as simply and as promptly as it rushed to arms in obedience to the country's call. The equal justice of our laws has received steady vindication in the support of a law-abiding people against various and sinister attacks which have reflected only the baser agitations of war, now happily passing.

"In plenty, security and peace, our virtuous and self-reliant people face the future; its duties and its opportunities. May we have vision to discern our duties; the strength, both of hand and resolve, to discharge them; and the soundness of heart to realize that the truest opportunities are those of service.

"In a spirit, then, of devotion and stewardship, we should give thanks in our hearts and dedicate ourselves to the service of God's merciful and loving purposes to his children.

"Wherefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States of America, do hereby designate Thursday, the 25th day of November, next, as a day of thanksgiving and prayer and I call upon my countrymen to cease from their ordinary tasks and avocations upon that day, giving it up to the remembrance of God and his blessings and their dutiful and grateful acknowledgement."

**TAKES REAL NERVE**

It is only now and then that the public gets a chance to look behind the scenes of a newspaper publishing and obtain an accurate idea of the amount of capital involved in the ownership and management of the great metropolitan dailies. Publishers while preaching publicity to others, are backward about following their own advice. The leading New York and Chicago newspapers have the reputation of being great money makers. In the height of its prosperity the New York Herald made over a million dollars a year.

Of all the capitalists who have entered the newspaper field none has shown a more daring spirit or invested more money than Frank A. Munsey. Just how much cash he put into the properties he has purchased in the last twenty years was not known outside of his own organization until recently when he gave out the figures in the course of an interview. Up to the present time his investments amount to about \$16,000,000. Mr. Munsey began with the New York Star, which he renamed the Continent and published in tabloid form in 1900. He kept the paper only a short time and then sold it. He bought the New York Daily News for \$500,000 and after sinking nearly as much more in the property practically gave the paper away to get rid of it. Next he acquired the Boston Journal for \$600,000, which proved another losing venture. After dropping a million or more in trying to make it successful he gave it up as a bad job and sold it at a considerable loss.

The Philadelphia Times, which he took over in 1908 at a cost of over a million dollars, was scrapped in 1914. The Washington Times which he bought for \$200,000 turned out better than the other newspapers as he sold it for \$500,000 after running it a number of years. The Baltimore News, for which he paid \$1,500,000, made money from the start and is still in his hands.

Mr. Munsey paid \$3,000,000 for the New York Sun in 1916 and shortly afterwards consolidated with it the Press which cost him \$2,500,000. Then came his purchase of the New York Herald and the Telegram in January 1920. To the Sun, Herald and Telegram he has added \$2,000,000 for working capital.

In investing the enormous total of \$16,000,000 in newspaper properties, he has not imperiled his fortune. He had high journalistic ideals and was willing to pay heavily to see them carried out. In his management of the New York Herald and the New York Sun, he is endeavoring to preserve the traditions of both newspapers. Since restoring to the Herald its own individuality newspaper men say that Mr. Munsey will undoubtedly put it back in its old place as an authoritative newspaper. The Sun in the afternoon field to which it has been relegated, is making more money than it ever made before. A man who can lose millions and still fight on as bravely and as fearlessly as Frank A. Munsey deserves to succeed.—Newspaperdom.

The utter route of the democratic party this year is not the first time that this party of the people has "gone down for the count," as they say in the prize ring. The principles on which the democratic party is founded and on which it has survived for one hundred years will never die and while they may be rejected at times there need be no fear of their ever dying. The democratic party will return to power just as soon as the people realize that they have been deceived into forsaking political righteousness. This paper has little confidence in the reformation of the republican standpatters and we shall expect them to resume the governmental game which resulted in filling this country with tramps and building up the great industrial trusts by the operation of the high protective tariff. There'll be another political revolution in this country and during the next four years is our guess.—Douglas International.

**TAXATION OF MINING PROPERTY**

Among the many subjects to be discussed by the American Mining Congress which meets in annual convention at Denver is one of the most important, and of especial interest to Arizona.

For the past four years the assessed valuation of mining property of all descriptions has exceeded the combined valuations of all other property in the state. And since statehood the total assessments of mining property has mounted from \$45,145,084.49 for the fiscal year 1912 to \$496,262,860.93 in 1919. For 1920 the total is \$469,651,131.18, the reduction from the preceding year being due to lessened production, principally copper.

At the Denver conference the tax question will be discussed from every angle. The necessity for immediate tax reform is urgent, calling for concerted attention and action.

In view of the heavy overload of accumulated federal tax settlements, the impending problems of depletion, depreciation and valuation, the necessity for immediate tax reform is self-evident.

The conference will consider the problems of early and decisive settlement of the war taxes of prior years and the remedy proposed by the American Mining Congress—legislation at the next short session of congress authorizing the creation of a board of adjustment. How such board shall be appointed, of how many members, their qualifications, compensation, scope of action, methods of procedure, relation to the treasury department, the finality of their decisions, or to be subject to appeal, all these questions will be fully discussed and threshed out.

Further, the problems of interpretation of the present law, regulations and decisions, the relation of depletion to invested capital, etc., etc. The relation of lessor and lessee under present and prior tax laws, procedure before the revenue board; attitude of the bureau and the tax payer, will be included in the discussions.

The conference will deal with the matter in a series of "round table" discussions, so as to give everyone an opportunity to submit suggestions and recommendations, as well as derive practical benefit from the experience of specialists and authorities on the subject.

The number of formal papers will be limited and comparatively brief so as to give every opportunity for open discussion.

Not only will it be proposed that legislation be enacted to create a federal board of adjustment to settle back taxes, but the project will be outlined in detail, comprehensive resolutions passed and committees appointed to draft the necessary law.

**SOCIALIST DISILLUSION**

Among the election returns that falsified prophecy is the failure of the Socialists to carry out their promises. The other parties of dissent fared as ill. The Non-Partisan men cut no figure. The Non-Partisan League in North Dakota has contingent claims on a Republican senator, and an increased representation in the House, but its power remains local, its total vote significance in thirty millions.

The Socialists, by long odds the strongest third party, cast 901,000 votes in 1912. The electorate has since doubled. Their vote has not. Meyer London goes to Congress, but he has been there before, and Victor Berger does not accompany him. It is of course desirable that a party casting a million or more votes should have a hearing in the House.

In an old-fashioned fight between the two great parties there has been an old-fashioned landslide. The Socialist Party shows little sign of recovery from the blow it dealt itself in its attitude toward the war, driving out most of its American-born member and its ablest leaders.

**BURY THE HATCHET**

Miami seems unreconciled to the defeat of the proposed county division bill, at the polls, and the Silver Belt is carrying a hang-over of bitterness from its intensive campaign in behalf of that measure. We are sorry to observe it. The Belt made a vigorous campaign, submitted the issue, and lost, not because the people of the state did not appreciate the aspirations of the city of Miami, but because, while the bill was special legislation in intent, it was necessarily general, and therefore, its terms generally applicable. The rest of the state would be happy to know that Globe and Miami had buried the hatchet and pledged to work together for that wonderful district and for the state.—Tucson Star.

The Arizona Republican is doing a lecture stunt in connection with the defeat of the state road commission initiated measure which was fought in Cochise county. The Republican intimates that those who opposed this measure are those who are willing to continue road construction without regard to cost or system. This is not applicable to Cochise county as during the past year Cochise county has built more good roads at less expense than any other county in the state. Maricopa county has been the lagard of Arizona in the matter of building roads of any kind, bad or good and we think the Republican should look at home before it starts to censure other counties in the matter of their ideas of building roads.—Douglas International.

The road work done in this county by County Engineer Sid Smyth is a credit to the county board of supervisors and to Mr. Smyth, who has demonstrated that he knows how to build a good road and how to economize on its construction. Mr. Smyth has had charge of the roads of the county for nearly two years and it will be pleasing to his friends to learn that he will be continued in his present position. There is yet much important road work to be done in this county and we have no hesitancy in saying that our present county engineer is capable of doing it in a manner which will be satisfactory to all.—Douglas International.

**INTERSTATE PASSENGER RATES IN ARIZONA ARE DESPOTIC IS CHARGE JONES MAKES IN BRIEF**

PHOENIX, Nov. 14.—Characterizing the present interstate passenger rates in Arizona as "unjust if not despotic" E. A. Jones, corporation commissioner on behalf of Arizona, New Mexico and Nevada, has filed a brief in the passenger fare case now before the Interstate Commerce Commission. A hearing was had before Examiner H. C. Keene, in Los Angeles, September 23-25, 1920, and the case will come up for final argument before the interstate commission in Washington on December 2 and 3.

For many years the three states were accorded rates of two and a half cents per mile through the deumium of scrip books. Then came the famous general order No. 28 of the U. S. Railroad administration cancelling all the scrip rates. This had the effect of raising rates one half cent a mile in rate of the intermountain and Pacific states, which were enjoying three cent rates, but in Arizona, New Mexico and Nevada the increase was one and a half cents per mile on main lines and where rates on the branch lines were originally higher than four cents the increase was proportionately higher.

**UTAH FAMILIES MAKE LAND SETTLEMENT**

KINGMAN, Ariz., Nov. 16.—Last Monday, Anson H. Smith received notice from George Oels Smith, head of the geological survey, giving assent to the entry of lands for agricultural purposes in the withdrawn area in the strip north of the Colorado river. The application was made to the General Land Office nearly a year ago and later taken up with the Department of the Interior and by that department referred to the Geological Survey. Mr. Smith took the view that while these lands would still be held for oil purposes the surface would pass to agriculture as would the lands in ordinary homestead entry.

Believed Utah families will now settle on approximately 6,000 acres of Arizona lands under the ruling. These people have had surveys made, selected a farm site and have expended quite a sum of money, only to discover that the lands were withdrawn from entry. Their entry into Mohave county in an agricultural way will probably induce many others to go in there and reclaim many sections of rich virgin soil.

**FAIR CLOSES**

PHOENIX, Nov. 12.—The Arizona state fair for 1920 closed this evening with the finish of the last of the annual automobile races. Although a program of automobile races was arranged for tomorrow it was understood these would be under private management and not part of the state fair proper. Fair officials estimated 20,000 attended the fair today, drawn chiefly by the motor events. The exhibits were centers of attraction, as usual and there was an aerial program during the afternoon. Yesterday saw the last of the horse racing.

**GEN. CRAIG AND COL. PARKER INSPECT TROOP F, 1ST CAV., AT PEARCE, ON WAY TO CAMP**

DOUGLAS, Nov. 14.—Brig. Gen. Main Craig, camp commander and Col. F. Le J. Parker, commander of the First cavalry, yesterday went to Pearce and inspected F troop of the First cavalry, which is returning to Camp Harry J. Jones and is due to arrive there Monday. The general and colonel caught the troop on the march as it was going into camp.

**CLAIM ILLEGAL DETENTION**

PRESCOTT, Ariz., Nov. 15.—Alleging that on November 4 Chief Clerk Mitchell P. Mahoney at Whipple Barracks caused their detention without proper authority and subjected them to humiliation in the sight of people at the barracks, Dolores M. Montoya and Horace Porter, employed as bakers at the post entered separate suits for damages against Mahoney in the superior court.

Humiliation and injury to their reputations are alleged to have resulted when Mahoney had the two "marched" through the streets at the post. They are asking for damages in the sum of \$5000 each.